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# HOLYOKE the Sun

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## Kate's Kitchen, food pantry remain open

Providence Ministries' community services are still open amid the coronavirus pandemic, Executive Director Shannon Rudder announced this week.

Kate's Community Kitchen will provide warm, nutritious take-out meals, though dining room services will be suspended until further notice. Meals are available noon to 2 p.m. in the parking lot at 56 Cabot St., Holyoke.

FOOD PANTRY, 3



## HCC is open, but encouraging remote learning

Holyoke Community College's campus was closed Monday and Tuesday for an extensive cleaning and disinfecting of all buildings, but the college planned to reopen by the end of this week with limited in-person services.

Classes were on spring break this week. In-person classes have been suspended next week, March 23-27, though online classes will be held.

HCC, 3



## Medical Center wants to build behavioral unit

Holyoke Medical Center is proposing a new behavioral health hospital on its campus on Beech Street.

Planning for the proposal has taken approximately a year. In September 2019, Holyoke Medical Center partnered with Signet Health Corp. for management and consulting help in delivering behavioral health services.

HOSPITAL, 3

## School lunch program continues, though classes are canceled

By Shelby Macri  
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Despite the coronavirus closure, there have been a few students going to school in Holyoke over the past week.

They aren't there for an education, however, and they don't even make it into the building. They are there to pick up breakfast and lunch — meals that many Holyoke children depend on the schools to provide on class days. Thanks to school administrators and Sodexo Food Services, that service has continued uninterrupted.

"Monday was our first day and we expect to continue through the duration of the closure, however long that is," said Receiver-Superintendent Stephen Zrike. "We expect numbers to be higher as this break extends."

For the past week, Holyoke families with school-aged children have been able to stop by the front door of any one of five school buildings to receive a free "grab and go" bag with breakfast and lunch



From left, Jeremiah Cousineau, Isaiah Maloon, Dominic Maloon and Jaylanize Hernandez gathered at Lawrence School on March 18 for a grab-and-go lunch. Photo by Shelby Macri

items. Families can pick up one bag per school-age child. It does not matter if the child qualifies for free or reduced lunch, or attends public or private school. Families can go to whatever school is most convenient.

Starting Monday, March 23, the program will be extended to a sixth school, though the hours will be curtailed

to 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The six meal sites are Donahue, Kelly, Lawrence, Morgan and Sullivan schools, and Holyoke High School, North Campus.

"We want to make sure that all families and students are able to get access to this service," said Judy Taylor, the schools' director of communications. "We're adding the Morgan School as a site

because the students that live in lower Holyoke, to walk to the closest site is kind of far for them."

Each site has a school administrator present with the food service workers. Taylor said the grab-and-go service is similar to a program the schools provide in the sum-

See LUNCHES, page 16

## Coronavirus closes City Hall

By Michael Ballway  
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City officials have been "working nonstop" to keep residents safe from the coronavirus, and as of Monday, they've had the building to themselves.

Mayor Alex Morse announced last week that City Hall and the City Hall Annex, along with most other non-emergency city facilities, would be closed to public access as long as the contagious disease Covid-19 is considered a threat to public health.

"Our priority right now is [to] slow down the spread of the coronavirus in our community in any way possible," Morse said at a March 13 press conference.

On March 12, he declared Holyoke to be in an official state of emergency.

Residents with business at City Hall are asked to call or email the relevant department first, or take advantage of online services at www.holyoke.org. If the department staff determine that the



Mayor Alex Morse talks about Holyoke's response to the coronavirus at a press conference March 13. Photo by Michael Ballway

request cannot be handled by telephone or email, the resident may be able to visit the office by appointment only.

Though Holyoke was one of the first cities in the region to bar public access from its

city hall, others have followed suit as the state government revises its guidelines for "social distancing."

"It is in the best interest of the city of Holyoke to act

See CITY HALL, page 3

## School aid hiked

Forum thinks of ways  
to spend \$27M increase

By Michael Ballway  
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"Can you imagine what we can do with \$27 million?" asked Anthony Soto.

Yes, a group of school administrators and parents can imagine it. They can imagine a stack of sticky notes' worth of new programs, teacher incentives and curriculums they'd like to see at Holyoke's public schools.

They shared some of those ideas at a public forum March 3 at the Holyoke Public Library, after hearing a presentation on the Student Opportunity Act, a recent amendment to the Chapter 70 state education aid formula. The new formula includes a seven-year, \$1.5 billion to \$2.2 billion addition to the state's support of local education, with most of the new funds earmarked

See BUDGET, page 8



# Coronavirus impact felt statewide

By Elise Linscott  
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All public and private schools will be closed for at least three weeks, restaurants will be limited to delivery or take-out only for a month and gatherings of over 25 people will be banned, Gov. Charlie Baker announced last Sunday.

On Monday, Baker also announced a \$10 million recovery loan fund to help small businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic, the Associated Press reported.

For 80 percent of the population, the coronavirus feels like the flu and doesn't lead to hospitalization, Baker said in a press conference Sunday.

"The reason we're taking this so seriously is because it is incredibly contagious," Baker said. "It's more contagious than the seasonal flu."

On Monday, state health officials reported there were 197 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Massachusetts, up from 164 on Sunday, and 14 hospitalizations, according to the Boston Herald. As of Monday night, there were 181,377 cases worldwide and 7,119 deaths, according to a map by Johns Hopkins University. Most of the deaths were in China, Italy, Iran and Spain.

If we "take decisive steps now and everyone plays their part by following the best medical guidance, we can slow down the spread, and our healthcare system can be better positioned to care for the people who need it," Baker said.

The statewide order banning gatherings of 25 or more people applies to

spaces like churches, gyms, concerts and offices and is in effect until April 5. Baker said there are no shelter-in-place orders. The state has also temporarily suspended certain provisions of open meeting laws in order to allow town boards and commissions to meet via phone or Internet, which still allow real-time public access.

Dine-in service at restaurants has also been banned, though as of Wednesday eateries were still allowed to prepare and serve food for pickup or delivery. As of Wednesday, there were no other statewide restrictions on businesses, but the city of Holyoke announced Tuesday that it was closing the all shops at the Holyoke Mall that can be reached only by internal corridors. Shops with outside entrances would still be allowed to open.

### Social distancing

To halt the spread of the pandemic, doctors are urging people to maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from each other whenever possible. Dr. Armando Paez, chief of infectious diseases at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, said he "can't stress enough the importance of social distancing."

"Maintaining a distance, especially from someone who is sick and is coughing and sneezing, is important because when that person coughs or sneezes, they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain the Covid-19 virus or any other virus. If you are too close to them, then you can breathe in the droplets and become infected. Equally important is the fact

that you could be infectious, yet have no symptoms, and spread the disease to others," said Paez.

According to the CDC, older people are twice as likely to have serious illness from the novel coronavirus. They are advising people over 60 with underlying health problems to "stay at home as much as possible." That means avoiding air travel, going to movie theaters, attending family events, and shopping at crowded malls, for example.

"What we know from researchers is that the fatality rate is likely to be higher among older adults," Paez commented. "As we age, our immune system weakens in its ability to fight off viruses and infections. Also, chronic health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease and others make it harder for their already weakened bodies to cope with the additional strain placed on them by Covid-19."

You might even want to keep a social distance from your doctor's office, said Paez. To avoid exposing healthy people to infection, the doctor may ask patients coming in for a routine checkup to delay their visit until the virus is under control. Patients should call their doctors before keeping an appointment, Paez advised.

Social distancing also means reconsidering how we greet one another in social situations.

"The handshake is out, at least for now," he said. "Many people over the years have already become more accustomed to saying, 'I'm not shaking hands because I have a cold.' But we have to take that one step further and not shake

anyone's hand, even if you're healthy. Handshaking results in transferring viruses and bacteria from one person to another, and that means the new coronavirus."

He suggested that people greeting each other should use a bow, a wave or an elbow bump.

"We all need to do our part to help prevent the spread of this deadly virus," Paez said. "The time to take action is now, before it is too late, when as a country many are only now coming to the realization that social distancing is the only way to stop the community spread of coronavirus Covid-19."

For more information, visit [baystate-health.org/covid19](http://baystate-health.org/covid19).

### Change elections

The pandemic is also having an impact on the presidential primaries. On Monday night, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine said he would postpone Ohio's presidential primary by declaring a public health emergency. Georgia, Kentucky and Louisiana have also postponed their primary elections.

Massachusetts held its presidential primary on March 3, but several municipal elections are planned for later this spring. Additionally, as of Wednesday, Massachusetts had not postponed the handful of special legislative elections — including a contested race for state Senator in Holyoke and 10 other communities in Hampden and Hampshire counties — scheduled for March 31.

*Staff writer Michael Ballway contributed to this report.*

## Coronavirus pandemic closes YMCA

The Greater Holyoke YMCA closed Monday, March 16, "in the best interest of our members and staff" as public health officials warned of the risk posed by the coronavirus and Covid-19 disease.

Kathy Viens, CEO of the local Y, said in a statement that the organization is following the guidance of the Massachusetts Department of Public

Health, the federal Centers for Disease Control and local health departments. The Y at 171 Pine St., Holyoke, employs almost 150 staff and serves more than 3,000 members.

Viens asked members to keep their membership active, and promised to share updates on plans to reopen the facility as soon as they are available.

## Hibernian breakfast refunds available

Several St. Patrick's Day-themed events were canceled late last week, after The Holyoke Sun's deadline, including the annual Ancient Order of Hibernians Communion Breakfast.

The breakfast, which was slated for March 15, will be rescheduled for a later date, the Hibernians announced. The new date has not yet been set. The Communion Breakfast honors the recip-

ient of the Hibernians' Christian Charity Award, which this year was Sister Joan Magnani, SSJ, of Jericho, the Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults.

Those holding tickets to the breakfast can receive a refund of the purchase price by contacting Fran Hennessey at 413-785-5687. Hennessey may also be called for more information about the event.


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ABOVE: The Sneaker Peek event took place in the gymnasium of the YMCA on Pine Street in Holyoke. More photos and a story were printed in last week's edition of The Holyoke Sun.

## Y PARTY

From left, Mayor Alex Morse, YMCA Board Member Maureen Ross O'Connell and YMCA of Greater Holyoke CEO Kathy Viens pose for a photo at the YMCA's Sneaker Peek fundraiser on March 7.

Photos by Shelby Macri



## HOSPITAL, from page 1

The current inpatient behavioral health unit at Holyoke Medical Center has a capacity of 20 beds. The proposed new facility would have approximately 100 beds, including moving the 20 existing beds currently on the fifth floor of the main hospital building. It is designed to provide best-in-class care in a purpose-built facility specifically tailored to the needs of behavioral health patients with all modern requirements, including secure outdoor space.

The hospital has hired Leo Brown Group, a full-service healthcare real estate development and solutions company, to design and build the facility on the hospital's existing campus. The hospital

will continue to work with Signet Health for management services within the proposed facility.

The project requires approval from local and state boards to move forward.

"Holyoke Medical Center is eager to have conversations at the state level to expand the much-needed behavioral health bed capacity in Western Massachusetts. This proposal is fully in line with the commonwealth's goal to increase investment in behavioral health services," said Spiros Hatiras, president and CEO of Holyoke Medical Center and Valley Health Systems.

It is estimated that, once approved, the new facility will take 18 months to complete and become operational.

## HCC, from page 1

According to a statement by HCC President Christina Royal, the college will undertake "efforts to accomplish remote work, teaching, and learning opportunities for the foreseeable future, in accordance with Gov. [Charlie] Baker's recommendations for higher education. ... [and] the social distancing recommendations of the CDC and MDPH, in order to ensure the health and safety of our students, employees, and communities."

Royal said HCC planned to staff three-quarters of its operations with remote workers this week, with the goal of "all possible offices" allowing their employees to work remotely by Monday, March 23. The goal is to reduce the number of people who must be physically present on the Homestead Avenue campus, while ensuring that all students have access to the resources they need.

At a press conference last week, Royal explained that it's more difficult for a community college to shut down its campus than it is for some of the larger, four-year colleges that have done so in response to the threat of coronavirus.

Many HCC students depend upon campus resources for their access to the

Internet, she said, or they may rely on the food court for their meals. Some HCC students are homeless.

In a statement this week, Royal noted that moving classes and other services online may not fit every department and academic discipline, but she encouraged each department to "think creatively" about how it can limit the need for students and professors, staff and clients to be physically present.

"Postponing or canceling gatherings — and considering how we might deliver our courses and services in other ways — has taken nearly every waking moment of these past weeks," Royal said. "This is a rapidly changing situation, and HCC will continue to provide regular updates to our community. We ask everyone to please check College Messages at [hcc.edu/coronavirus](https://hcc.edu/coronavirus), where you will also find new FAQs and important information. Additionally, if you have any questions regarding the current situation, please send them to [coronavirus@hcc.edu](mailto:coronavirus@hcc.edu). We will do our best to answer quickly."

She said last week that the college's response to the coronavirus will end up costing "millions of dollars."

Staff writer Michael Ballway contributed to this report.

# State Rep. Vega supports transportation tax bill

BOSTON — In one of their last acts before precautions against the coronavirus led to the suspension of formal sessions and the eventual closure of the State House to the public, state Rep. Aaron Vega, D-Holyoke, along with his colleagues in the House of Representatives, passed legislation to invest up to \$600 million annually in transportation.

The House plan is expected to raise \$522 million to \$612 million through tax increases on gasoline and diesel fuel, as well as an increase in the corporate minimum tax. The proposal now goes to the state Senate.

Gas and diesel taxes would rise 5 and 9 cents per gallon, respectively. The corporate minimum tax would rise for the first time in more than 30 years. Small businesses with less than \$1 million in annual Massachusetts sales would see no change in their tax rates. Businesses with Massachusetts annual sales above \$1 million would pay fees according to an eight-tier scale. The maximum annual fee of \$150,000 is for companies with annual Massachusetts sales of \$1 billion or more.

"Making sure any revenue bill

looked at equitable ways to raise funds by including corporations as well as individuals was a priority of mine as we took up this bill," said Vega. "I believe this bill represents that priority and provides a road map to improving our transportation system statewide, including our regional transit authorities such as the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority."

Under the bill, transportation network company fees would increase in a tiered structure to incentivize shared rides. Shared rides fees will not increase, but fees would be higher for non-shared and luxury rides. The bill updates a TNC out-of-state driver excise tax provision and sets TNC data collection and reporting requirements. The bill also eliminates a sales tax exemption that currently allows car rental companies to purchase fleet vehicles without paying sales or use taxes.

The House plan will spend the increased revenue on the statewide transportation system. The system faces increased congestion, ongoing unreliability and safety concerns, while cities and towns across the state report increased transportation infrastructure needs.

## Local hospitals restricting visitors

Holyoke and Baystate hospitals have both implemented a "no visitors" policy in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Since March 10, Holyoke Medical Center on Beech Street has been excluding visitors in all of its inpatient and outpatient facilities, with the exceptions of:

- One parent to accompany minor patients in the Emergency Department.
- One adult visitor in the waiting room for any adult patients.
- One birthing partner for women in labor in the Maternity Unit.

In special circumstances, the hospital may make other exceptions, such as allowing access by a medical guardian or decision-maker, or in the case of an end-of-life patient. Apart from these exceptions, no visitors are being allowed in the treatment areas of the Emergency Department.

"We have an obligation to minimize the risk to our patients and to our staff," said Spiros Hatiras, president and CEO of Holyoke Medical Center. "Hospitals around the nation are experiencing staff shortages when staff is exposed to confirmed cases of Covid-19 infection. After great deliberation, we feel it is vitally important to protect our patients

and our workforce so that they can be ready and available to provide care to our community. We understand this is not easy for our patients, their families and their loved ones, but we also know that we are expected to take whatever steps are necessary to reduce the risk to all."

For more information, visit [holyokehealth.com](https://holyokehealth.com).

Baystate tightened its policy on March 18, affecting Baystate Medical Center and Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, and Baystate Noble Hospital in Westfield, among others in its network. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of Baystate Health for:

- One parent or guardian for a patient under the age of 18.
- One birthing partner for a woman in labor.
- One person at a time for a hospice or end-of-life patient.
- One clergy member for an end-of-life patient.
- One caretaker for a completely dependent patient.

Those meeting exceptions will be screened prior to visitation.

For more information, visit [baystatehealth.org/covid19](https://baystatehealth.org/covid19).

## FOOD PANTRY, from page 1

Margaret's Pantry will continue to welcome those in need of supplemental groceries to enjoy. This includes both monthly guests along with anyone impacted by loss of work or simply realizing greater need at this time. Pantry clients should make an appointment by calling Brenda at 413-536-9109, ext. 119. The pantry is also at 56 Cabot St., Holyoke.

St. Jude's Clothing Center will be closed until further notice, and food-works culinary training program will suspend current classes until further notice. The April 1 graduation will be rescheduled.

Providence is working to ensure its single room occupancy recovery housing spaces maintain cleanliness and

overall health, though it is difficult to ensure a true quarantine due to shared spaces, such as bathrooms and kitchens. At Loreto House, residents will suspend weekend passes and all planned workshops, and no members of the general public will be allowed entrance; a daily temperature check has been instituted, and any resident presenting symptoms and fever will be sent to the hospital or a primary care provider. At both Broderick House and McCleary Manor, no outside visitor and overnight guests are permitted. No new residents will be admitted to any of these houses during this time. Each home has adequate cleaning products and hand soaps. Volunteers are asked to exercise caution and use their best judgment to continue in their service. Providence Ministries is happy to continue to ensure support for its community and neighbors.



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## John Cain • R-Southwick

John Cain, 31, is the owner of Cain's Mechanical Inc. of Agawam. He lives in Southwick with his wife Mikenzie Cain and daughter Colleen Cain. He is a volunteer firefighter with the Southwick Fire Department and received an honorable discharge as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in September 2019.



the U.S. which limits business and personal growth opportunities. In Western Massachusetts there are many unfilled skilled trade positions, ranging from highway construction to aerospace manufacturing.

In addition, the Health Care Choice Bill currently being drafted by the Senate will improve transparency in health care, in turn reducing costs. In summary, it allows consumers more choices and current information regarding their healthcare and benefits.

2. *What role do state and local governments have to play in immigration policy or enforcement? Would you push for a change in state law on this topic, and if so, what would you change?*

I will advocate for legislation that is currently being worked on (H. 4529) that will expand access to skilled trade education for both high school students and adults. This legislation looks to utilize technical high school infrastructure to educate students during normal school hours and outside of school hours, adults and other students. This is a fiscally conservative way of expanding education access to a large group while keeping capital and operating costs low. There is a major skills gap in

## Voters Guide: State Senate

Residents of Holyoke are scheduled to go to the polls Tuesday, March 31, to select a new state senator to serve the remaining nine months of former state Sen. Donald Humason Jr.'s term.

Humason, a Republican from Westfield, resigned in January after being elected mayor of that city. He had represented the 11 communities of the district since 2013.

Two candidates were nominated at the March 3 primary election, state Rep. John Velis, a Democrat from Westfield, and business owner John Cain, a Republican from Southwick. As a service to voters, The Holyoke Sun invited both candidates to respond to the same five questions. Their responses, in their own words up to a limit of 150, are printed on this page.

The winner of this spring's election will be eligible to take office immediately, and will serve until the end of the year. The position will be up for election again, for a full two-year term, at the state election this November.

As of this week, the election was still slated to be held on schedule, despite the cancellation of many government meetings and services in an effort to stem the spread of the coronavirus. Pick up next week's edition of The Holyoke Sun for the latest information on the election.

## John Velis • D-Westfield

John Velis, 41, is the elected state representative for Westfield. He lives in Westfield. In addition to his service on Beacon Hill, he is also a veteran and a major in the U.S. Army Reserves.



tice-business relationship a win-win for everyone.

2. *What role do state and local governments have to play in immigration policy or enforcement? Would you push for a change in state law on this topic, and if so, what would you change?*

The first thing I learned in my immigration law class in law school is that immigration is a federal issue; state and local government have very little input. There are plenty of examples of the Supreme Court overruling states laws relating to immigration. However, the issue has been left at our doorstep due to the partisan bickering at the federal level that leads to nothing getting done.

As the current vice chair of the Veterans and Federal Affairs Committee, I would push for the passage of the bill that demands the U.S. lawmakers do the job they were elected to do.

My papau ("grandfather" in Greek) came over from

See CAIN, page 7

See VELIS, page 7

## CITY HALL, from page 1

quickly," said city Health Director Sean Gonsalves during the March 13 press conference.

Morse said city workers will still be paid, even if their offices close.

"We are evaluating a work-from-home policy," he said last week. Additionally, for those who show symptoms of Covid-19, "not a single employee will have to use a sick day or a personal day."

### Closed meetings

Morse ordered that city boards and commissions meet only if absolutely necessary. Both the City Council and School Committee canceled meetings scheduled for March 16. Council President Todd McGee announced that the council and its subcommittees would cancel all of their meetings until further notice.

Gov. Charlie Baker has authorized local boards to circumvent the state's Open Meeting Law and bar members of the public from attending meetings, as long as there is some other means of access, such as a phone conference line for public comment or streaming video of the meeting.

### Public schools

Schools have been closed all week. Initially, Holyoke, like most area school districts, announced it would be closed until March 27, but last week the governor said the soonest any schools in Massachusetts could reopen is April 6. That date is subject to change as state officials assess the progress of efforts to fight the coronavirus.

"Classrooms and buses create conditions in which it is difficult to create social distancing," noted Gonsalves.

In the meantime, Holyoke teachers provided students with a week's worth of learning materials on March 13, and will contact them to provide more optional work to do while school is out of session. The schools are also offering free "grab and go" meals to any Holyoke resident of school age, weekdays from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The boxed meals can be picked up at any one of six schools. Families are free to choose whichever site is most convenient, regardless of which schools their children attend.

- Donahue School, 210 Whiting Farms Road.
- Holyoke High School, North Campus, 500 Beech St.
- Kelly School, 216 West St.
- Lawrence School, 156 Cabot St.
- Morgan School, 596 S. Bridge St.
- Sullivan School, 400 Jarvis Ave.

At last Friday's press conference, Receiver-Superintendent Steven Zrike said the state has granted school districts a waiver from the usual 180-day requirement, allowing the school year to end Tuesday, June 23 — the final date on the school calendar, including five "snow days" — without having to make up the rest of the dates that students will miss because of the coronavirus.

Zrike said the School Department will use its all-call telephone system to notify parents of any changes in plans.

### Trash collection

Trash and recycling pickups will continue as usual, Morse said.

### Library

The Holyoke Public Library did not open Monday, March 16, and will remain closed "until further notice." Any items checked out will have their due dates changed to May 1, and overdue fines will be waived when the library reopens. Borrowers who wish to return items can use the outside book drops at any time.

The library has canceled all events through the first couple weeks of April. The annual Mini Golf and Games slated for April 4 has been rescheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26.

For more information, and for online resources that will remain active while the library building is closed, visit [www.holyokelibrary.org](http://www.holyokelibrary.org).

### Senior Center

The Senior Center announced this week that it would close until further notice, beginning Thursday, March 19.

All Senior Center services are suspended, including the "to-go" meals program. Those who depended on meals at the Senior Center are encouraged to contact WestMass ElderCare, at 413-538-9020, to sign up for the Meals on Wheels program.

Seniors in need of assistance during this time are encouraged to call 413-322-5625. Messages will be checked, and



From left, Mayor Alex Morse discusses coronavirus-related closings while standing outside his City Hall office with Receiver-Superintendent Stephen Zrike, Holyoke Community College President Christina Royal, city Health Director Sean Gonsalves, Police Chief Manny Febo, Public Nurse Deborah Schaier and Fire Chief Jeffrey Przekopowski. Photo by Michael Ballway

a Council on Aging staff member will return the call as soon as possible.

Under the previous order announced March 13, the Senior Center had initially curtailed its offerings to "essential services" during the first half of this week, staying open for social worker, financial and health services appointments, as well as "to-go" meals in lieu of the usual lunch service.

### Gas & Electric

Though Morse initially indicated that the Holyoke Gas & Electric offices would stay open to the public, the city-owned utility made the decision to close its Suffolk Street office effective Tuesday, March 17. Customer service is still available during business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by telephone (413-536-9300) and email. Bills can be paid over the phone or online at [www.hged.com](http://www.hged.com).

The state Department of Public Utilities has enacted a moratorium on utility shutoffs for residential customers until further notice.

### Parks and Rec

All sporting and community events have been canceled until further notice. Though the parks are still open, resi-

dents are discouraged from using them. Community Field will not be staffed, and the bathrooms will not be opened. No permits will be issued for parks events.

According to the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, most state parks, including Mount Tom, will remain open. One exception is the Holyoke Heritage State Park Visitor Center, which is closed until at least April 1, and the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, which will be closed until at least April 4.

### Wistariahurst

The city's historical museum, Wistariahurst, was also covered by the mayor's order, and has canceled its public hours and volunteer program, and delayed the start of its spring season of public events.

As of earlier this week, museum staff and the city historian still planned to be available to answer questions by telephone and email.

In a letter posted at [wistariahurst.org](http://wistariahurst.org), museum Director Kate Preissler noted that the historical nature of the building makes it difficult to thoroughly disinfect all surfaces or to allow a "social distancing" space of up to 6 feet between individuals.



# City orders mall closed, shops to set capacity at 10

The Holyoke Mall at Ingleside has been closed since Tuesday evening, and can't reopen until city officials lift their public health state of emergency.

Mayor Alex Morse ordered the closure on March 17 of any retailer "physically connected by common ways in structures classified as 'covered malls'" under the state building code.

The order makes an exception for shops offering grocery, pharmacy, medical supplies, pet food and supplies, and take-out food, provided they have directly public access to the outdoors. A retailer whose only public door is to an interior walkway of the mall would not be able to open. The shops had to have been selling these items before March 17 to qualify under this exemption.

On Wednesday, the mayor amended the order to mandate that all retail establishments with a permitted occupancy load of more than 10 shall limit their occupancy to no more than 10 people at any given time, including employees. Furthermore, the city is asking that retailers follow a "10-10-10 policy" for social distancing: 10 or fewer people on site at a time; a 10-minute limit for shoppers visiting the site; and 10 feet of separation between all persons within the facility, including those waiting in line both inside and outside the public entrance.

The order also "strongly encouraged" retailers to limit their commercial activities to pickup and delivery actions only.

Establishments that deal primarily in personal services, such as medical offices, banks and hair salons, are not considered "retailers" for the purposes of these orders.

*The Holyoke Police Department recorded the following arrests March 9-15. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.*

### Monday, March 9

Amy M. Niedbala, 33, of 18 Iris Court, Greenfield, was arrested at 12:50 a.m. on Appleton Street and charged with driving with a suspended license.

Arnaldo Rodriguez, 56, of 95 Maple St., Apt. 306, Holyoke, was arrested at 1:16 a.m. on Appleton Street on two warrants, and also charged with possession of a class A drug, possession of a class E drug, and trespassing.

Kyra Jade Blais, 22, of 34 Gould Road, Ware, was arrested at 5:43 a.m. on Elm Street on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class B drug.

Jose W. Maldonado, 25, of 456 Maple St., Apt. 2RR, Holyoke, was arrested at 6 p.m. on Commercial Street and charged with driving without a license and a marked lanes violation.

### Tuesday, March 10

Anthony Hill, 37, of 17 Allyn St., Apt. 2, Holyoke, was arrested at 12:33 a.m. on Beech Street and charged with indecent assault and battery on a child under 14.

Joey Santos, 46, of 446 Appleton St., Apt. 5C, Holyoke, was arrested at 4:08 a.m. on Appleton Street and charged with possession of a firearm without a license, possession of ammunition without a license, discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building, improper storage of a firearm, and intentionally, directly or indirectly, interfering with a police officer.

Orlando Rodriguez-Cruz, 62, of 40

Meadow St., Apt. 101, Chicopee, was arrested at 7:38 p.m. on North Bridge Street and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and driving with a revoked license.

### Wednesday, March 11

Vieshaun Davis, 39, of 584 Summer St., Apt. 1433, Holyoke, was arrested at 6:31 a.m. on South Canal Street on a warrant.

Aidza Michelle Echevarria, 32, homeless, was arrested at 2:33 p.m. on High Street on two warrants.

Jonathan Ely Martinez, 40, of 535 S. Bridge St., Apt. 2R, Holyoke, was arrested at 4:33 p.m. on Clemente Street on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class A drug and possession of a class B drug.

Jariely T. Vazquez, 29, of 904 Main St., 1st Floor, Holyoke, was arrested at 8:07 p.m. on Linden Street on two warrants.

### Thursday, March 12

Victor Cabassa Jr., 40, of 12 Evergreen Drive, Holyoke, was arrested at 12:30 a.m. on Sargeant Street and charged with driving under the influence of liquor, failing to stop or yield, a marked lanes violation, and resisting arrest.

Carlos Alberto Garcia, 39, of 36 N. Summer St., Apt. 1D, Holyoke, was arrested at 7:46 a.m. on Appleton Street on a warrant.

Jeffrey Walter Adamski, 41, of 1 Lasalle Drive, Whately, was arrested at 4:27 p.m. on West Franklin Street on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class A drug.

Jose Rivera Pacheco, 52, of 74 Montmorenci St., Apt. 1R, Springfield, was arrested at 4:56 p.m. on Pine Street on two warrants.

## Holyoke Arrests

Stepan Lavrenchuk, 28, of 9 Mooreland St., Feeding Hills, was arrested at 5:42 p.m. on Maple Street on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class A drug and possession of a class B drug.

### Friday, March 13

No arrests were recorded in the public log.

### Saturday, March 14

William Lorenzo Perez, 53, of 83 Superior Ave., Holyoke, was arrested at 4:50 p.m. on Appleton Street on a warrant, and also charged with malicious damage to a motor vehicle and disorderly conduct.

### Sunday, March 15

Monique Heard, 26, of 7 Thorpe Ave., Apt. 1LF, Holyoke, was arrested at 1:05 a.m. on High Street and charged with malicious destruction of property under \$1,200, and disorderly conduct.

Quiariat Jearim Hernandez-Gomez, 33, of 4 East Court, Holyoke, was arrested at 2:20 a.m. on Jackson Street and charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, driving under the influence of liquor, leaving the scene of personal injury, reckless driving, and driving with an open container of alcohol.

Juan G. Rosario, 40, of 147 Leary Drive, Holyoke, was arrested at 2:22 a.m. on Leary Drive on a warrant.

Larry D. Walter, 33, of 318 Elm St., Holyoke, was arrested at 5:02 p.m. on Maple Street on a warrant, and also charged with driving with a license revoked or suspended for OUI, and driving with an obstructed or non-transparent window.

## Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
Docket No. HD20P0491PM  
In the matter of:  
Doreen Bahadur  
Of: Holyoke, MA  
RESPONDENT  
(Person to be Protected/  
Minor)  
CITATION GIVING  
NOTICE OF PETITION  
FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
CONSERVATOR OR OTHER  
PROTECTIVE ORDER  
PURSUANT TO G.L. c.  
190B, §5-304 & §5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Errol S Bahadur** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Doreen Bahadur** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Errol S Bahadur of Holyoke, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court..

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **04/06/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the

written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 09, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/20/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20P0202EA  
Estate of:  
Louis M Gageant  
Date of Death: 11/16/2019  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Pamela R. Cadran** of Cheshire MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Pamela R. Cadran** of Cheshire MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/06/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection If you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons

Interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 09, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/20/2020

**SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES  
Under G.L. c. 159B Sec 6B as Amended  
By Senate 466 of 1989**  
Notice is hereby given by **Reardon's Garage Inc., 1537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, p39 that on **April 8, 2020 at 12:00 noon** at 1537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA, the following motor vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garagekeepers lien.

**2002 Acura 3.2 TL**  
Vin# 19UUA56632A030616  
LKO: Paul Prentice  
247 Granville Rd.  
Southwick, MA

**2016 Hyundai Elantra**  
Vin# 5NPDH4AE6GH746123  
LKO: Michael Javier Rodriguez Cabreco  
3 Lamb St.  
So. Hadley, MA 01075

**2007 Toyota Scion TC**  
Vin# JTKDE177270155454  
LKO: Kimberly Cahoon  
173 Holbrook Ave.  
Willamantic, CT

**2007 Lincoln MKZ**

Vin# 3LNHM28T67R615580  
LKO: Lamar Anthony  
24565 Edgewood St.  
Philadelphia, PA

**2002 Toyota Celica**  
Vin# JTDDR32T320124721  
LKN: Heriberto Carmona  
3 Pray Dr.  
Greenfield, MA

**1998 Toyota Camry**  
Vin# 4T1BF22K6WU925414  
LKO: Kayla Plasse  
84 Grape St. #1L  
Chicopee, MA

**2005 Ford 500**  
Vin# 1FAFP24195G154148  
LKO: Carlin Liquore  
69 Blanchard Ave.  
Ludlow, MA

**2005 Chevy Malibu**  
Vin# 1G1ZT648X5F239327  
LKO: Felix Gonzalez  
837 State St. #509

Springfield, MA

**2001 Toyota Corolla**  
Vin# JTDBU4EE8B9142409  
LKO: Shauna Sabin  
178 No. Summer St.  
No. Adams, MA  
3/20, 3/27, 4/03/2020

**NOTICE OF EVICTION  
PUBLIC AUCTION / SALE  
Eviction#13119-April 4, 2020 at 9 am. Location: 460 Race Street, Holyoke Ma.**  
51 Pallets of furniture, appliances, household and other items belonging to P.Corbin or S.Hale.  
**Terms:** cash with immediate removal from property.  
3/20, 3/27/2020

### HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC NOTICES

All public notices to be published in the Holyoke Sun should be sent directly to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com). Jamie Joslyn processes all public notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie directly at 413-283-8393.

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**Please check the accuracy of your public notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

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[www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.



Editorial

# Coronavirus is a real threat

Americans don't like being told what to do, and the government's been doing an awful lot of telling lately.

Don't eat out. Don't send your kids to school. Don't have a party. Don't watch a parade.

The past week has seen a massive upheaval in almost every aspect of almost every American's life — home, work, recreation. None of it has been welcome. But — to repeat the phrase we all hated when we heard it as children from our parents, our doctors and our teachers — it's for our own good. The point is to protect us from the coronavirus.

The coronavirus that quarantined an entire metropolis in China.

The coronavirus that shut down essentially the whole country of Italy.

The coronavirus is not a possibility or a far-off fear. It's a real thing that has been killing thousands of people around the world. It's here now, and the only way we can stop it is to keep it from jumping from person to person. And the only way to do that is to keep people away from people.

A little skepticism about the claims made by politicians is a healthy thing, especially when they're trying to justify restrictions on freedom of movement and commerce. But this isn't a good time to take a chance on the experts being wrong. Everyone in a position of power is saying the same thing — the coronavirus is a real threat. Federal, state and local officials. Doctors and public health agencies. Business leaders. Politicians from both major parties.

That the American death toll hasn't yet reached the crisis levels of Italy or China is not a testament to some inherent superiority or hardness of the American public. It's merely a function of the fact that the coronavirus infected those countries earlier. Public health officials aren't responding to actual deaths on our shores. They're looking at how the disease has spread in other countries, and trying to stop it from spreading that way here.

What can you do?

- Practice good hygiene — wash hands frequently, cough into your sleeve rather than hand, disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items in the home.

- Stay home. Work from home, learn from home, eat at home. Shop online and have items delivered. Read books and watch television rather than going out for entertainment. Don't host or attend parties.

- Limit contact between elderly people and young people. Senior citizens are especially susceptible to Covid-19, and children can carry the virus without showing any symptoms.

See VIRUS, page 7



In The Garden

## Pre-start cannas now!

I was trying to think up a good indoor gardening project that the girls could help me with over their unexpected break from school. How about pre-starting some canna rhizomes? I have a few overwintering in the mud-room and if I start the now they'll be good-sized by May. Read on.

Cannas are gorgeous plants for the summer border. Their large, paddle-shaped leaves and fist-sized clusters of vivid-toned flowers add an exotic touch to beds and container plantings. Sometimes, however, a gardener's initial experience with this tender bulb leads to disappointment rather than delight. The plant may take most of the season to reach its mature height and come into flower, only to be struck down by frost a few weeks later. Why not give your cannas a head start? By potting them up now you will get blooms earlier in the season and be able to enjoy wonderful tropical foliage for a longer period.

If you are shopping for canna rhizomes for the first time, you will no doubt find a better selection through mail order nurseries than the local garden center. Standard varieties can grow upwards of six feet tall, whereas dwarf cultivars top off at two or three feet. Choose carefully! All will do best if planted in full sun and fertile soil. Some cannas even make great water specimens. When you place your order, mention to the operator that you'd like your bulbs as soon as it is safe enough for them to be sent in the mail without risk of freezing, otherwise you will likely receive them close to Memorial Day, which is too late for indoor planting.

When your package arrives, unpack it

immediately. Canna rhizomes will come in small plastic bags filled with peat moss. At the very least, they should be about the size of your thumb; sometimes they are even double that in width. They ought to be firm, not at all soft. To pot them up, choose a container that is a couple of inches bigger than the rhizome when it is laid out horizontally; one six to eight inches in diameter is usually ideal. Fill the pot about half way with a good quality moistened potting soil. Lay the rhizome on top with leaf buds pointing up. Any hairy

roots, new or old can fall to the side. Cover with two inches of soil. If your finished product reaches the rim, reposition so that you have at least an inch deep "basin" on top to make watering well easier. Place the pots in a warm location and continue to water as needed. When the first sprouts appear, move the canna plants to a sunny window or place under grow lights. By mid-May you can start to harden the plants off outdoors by gradually exposing them to bright sun, wind and fluctuating temps. After a week to 10 days of acclimatization, and if there are no frosts in the forecast, cannas can be removed from their pots and planted in their permanent summer location. A shovelful of compost in the planting hole along with supplemental fertilizer every couple of weeks will result in big, floriferous plants fast!

Be sure to save your cannas from year to year; it's easy and makes great sense money-wise. I have had the same 'Wyoming' cannas going for well over a decade now. After

See CANNAS, page 7

ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid

## the HOLYOKE Sun

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## A Quote

### OF NOTE

*"I think the first couple of days were seen as vacation, but as the time goes on ... we'll see more and more people will need this resource."*

Stephen Zrike

## Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

## HIDDEN IN Holyoke



Each week, The Holyoke Sun will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city.

Think you know what or where it is? Readers are encouraged to submit their guesses to "Hidden in Holyoke" via email to TheSun@Turley.com. In order to qualify for the weekly contest, entries must be received by Wednesday at noon for inclusion into Friday's edition. Please include your full name with your guess in an email to TheSun@turley.com. If more than one correct answer is received, the names of all those who submitted guesses will be listed. For more information, contact The Holyoke Sun at 413-283-8398.



Last week's "Hidden in Holyoke" was the windows of Lawrence School facing Maple Street. It was correctly guessed by Don Diller, Alice and Dexter Gess, and Fred Wanat.





CAIN, from page 4

that have been put in place to keep their citizens safe. I support the citizens of our country and the rights and privileges which they deserve. When immigration policy is not followed, our local communities are put in danger and our law enforcement cannot properly protect and serve the people. As state senator, I will advocate for legislation that protects our communities, law enforcement and first responders. I will work against sanctuary policies, including issuing driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. Rather than harboring lawlessness, I will advocate for those who want to become citizens and live by the values, morals, ethics and laws that make this country safe and prosperous.

3. What would you do differently than the former senator, Donald Humason? What votes did he take during his tenure that you would have opposed?

Overall, Sen. Humason presented and sponsored legislation that I agree with. His voting record shows his conservative values, but also his ability to work with other lawmakers for the benefit of the taxpayer. I will continue to strongly advocate for legislation for veterans and in particular, continue to be a strong advocate for the Holyoke Soldiers Home. I have researched his legislation and could not find any that I disagree with. The main difference is I will make representation of all 11 communities more universal, and not consider Westfield the focal point of the district. I will proudly continue the transparency and accessibility that Sen. Humason provided to his constituents. Sen. Humason was well-respected and well-liked by his constituents. I am confident that I can build off his legacy and continue to represent this district proudly and faithfully.

4. Are state taxes at an appropriate level? Would you make any changes — or oppose any proposed changes — to the income, sales and gasoline tax rates?

Government has a spending problem that tax increases won't solve. The level of taxes are inflated. With a \$2 billion rainy-day fund, our government

is spending recklessly while introducing more taxes. Any personal or business budget spending must be controlled. Many taxes are not used for their intended purpose, but moved to the general fund and used for entitlement programs. My focus is transparency: showing the people what politicians are doing with our hard-earned money. Reducing costs of government projects would allow more projects to be completed, create jobs, and stimulate small business growth. I oppose the proposed gas tax, TCI, or other tax increases that subsidize Boston and the MBTA. Without reducing costs and spending, taxpayers and businesses will continue leaving the state, crippling local economies. Priority should be retaining taxpayers by providing value rather than using them as a pocketbook for financially failing government agencies.

5. What specific belief, attribute or experience makes you a better choice for senator than your opponent in this race?

I am the best choice to be the next state senator based on my professional, personal and public service experience, formal education and military leadership training. I understand firsthand the issues that families and businesses face daily. I have experience in balancing budgets and solving problems timely while working with people of different viewpoints. I know what it is like to have to make payroll on a Thursday night without passing a supplemental budget. Career politicians like my opponent, who have not worked in the private sector, have led this state down a path of exuberant spending without regard for the impact of their decisions on businesses and the working class. I have always been accountable to customers, employees or employers, and will hold myself accountable to constituents. I am committed to transparent government, where my opponent has voted against transparency legislation throughout state government, which does not allow proper representation.

Sheriff, DA won't hold post-parade party

Due to the cancellation of the city's annual St. Patrick's Parade and Road Race, Hampden County Sheriff Nicholas Cocchi and Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni have cancelled their annual Holyoke St.

Patrick's Day Post-Parade Reception at the Holyoke Boys & Girls Club, planned for March 22. Gulluni and Cocchi said they are already looking forward to making next year's celebration better than ever.

VELIS, from page 4

Greece through Ellis Island. He had 5 cents in his pocket, played by the rules, and opened restaurants that created jobs for natural-born citizens and immigrants alike. The opportunities he had, and are able to create, are what makes America great.

3. What would you do differently than the former senator, Donald Humason? What votes did he take during his tenure that you would have opposed?

I learned very early in my Army career that it's an act in futility to either praise or condemn your predecessor. I am my own person, and unique in my approach to politics. My record shows I am the most bipartisan lawmaker in Massachusetts and that approach — with respect to all lawmakers — makes me truly unique.

4. Are state taxes at an appropriate level? Would you make any changes — or oppose any proposed changes — to the income, sales and gasoline tax rates?

In my view, no, there is no need for any new taxes. The real need stares us in the face: We need to be more prudent with our spending habits. We need to stop looking at taxes as the way to create revenue to fund projects or fix fiscal mismanagement by certain organizations. Massachusetts does not have a revenue problem; it has a spending problem.

My strong opposition in voting against the gas tax two weeks ago was because of the negative impact it could have on Western Massachusetts. Massachusetts legislators cannot be looking at the pockets of taxpayers as the only solution to problems, but should be better directed in proper fiscal management.

5. What specific belief, attribute or experience makes you a better choice for senator than your opponent in this race?

I have six years of experience with a record of achievement through bipartisan efforts.

As a current major in the U.S. Army Reserves — and combat veteran who served two tours in Afghanistan — my time in the military shaped my bipartisan approach. When given an order, we didn't ask about political allegiances, we just got to work, got the job done, and didn't care who got credit.

As an attorney, I spent years studying and interpreting the laws of our state. I learned many lessons that have made the transition from attorney, to lawmaker, a comfortable one.

During my time as a representative, I have established many essential and necessary relationships with leaders and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle in order to get things done for my constituents.

All these experiences have given me a strong voice on Beacon Hill, and that's what the people of Western Mass. need.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

VIRUS, from page 6

• If you begin to experience a fever or flu-like symptoms, call your doctor.

Unfortunately, by the time symptoms appear, the patient has already been carrying — and spreading — the disease for as long as two weeks. Any of us could be infected right now and not realize it, so it's important that all of us work to halt its spread, whether we "feel sick" or not.

The government is forcing some of these choices on us. Schools, senior centers and increasingly town halls are closed. Public gatherings of large numbers of people have been banned. Restaurants are closed for all but takeout and delivery.

Some of these lifestyle changes are easy. Some are difficult. Some may even be annoying or burdensome.

But every one of them is better than getting infected. And every one of them is better than getting your grandparents, your parents, or your elderly neighbors infected, too.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com).

CANNAS, from page 6

a light frost, dig up the plants and let them dry briefly. Then, cut the foliage away from the rhizomes and store them at 50 degrees in boxes or tubs filled with peat moss. As mentioned, my mudroom is the perfect spot in my house. I am sure there is a place in yours too. After the second season you will have enough divisions to share with family and friends; much to their delight.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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**BUDGET, from page 1**

for districts like Holyoke that serve a high number of “economically disadvantaged” children.

If enrollment figures remain steady, Holyoke is slated to receive \$27,402,719 in additional funds over the seven years.

This year’s budget looks tight, but as the Student Opportunity Act funds continue to increase over the next seven years, Holyoke schools should be able to find money for new programs and initiatives.

“That’s going to be a little challenging to do this year, but in upcoming years that’s going to be a little easier to do,” said Soto, the schools’ chief finance and operations officer. “Now, when we’re looking at the future, it’s a little brighter.”

Attendees at the public forum wrote ideas for new programs on sticky notes,

then broke into small groups to discuss them and come up with three priorities per group. Some of the proposals suggested included:

- Full-day pre-kindergarten as an option for all students.
- Hiring more faculty to decrease class sizes.
- Paraprofessionals (aides) in every classroom, both to improve student-faculty ratios and to create a pipeline of young educators training to be teachers.
- More programs focused on staff development and retention.
- Hiring more staff to address behavioral issues and social-emotional learning.
- Mandatory Spanish language classes for all School Department employees who are not yet bilingual.
- Expansion of the dual-language program, and more of a focus on co-teaching,



School principals Sal Canata of Holyoke STEM Academy and Jackie Glasheen of White School tally some of the spending suggestions made by their team.

Photo by Michael Ballway

so that students see the Spanish-language teacher and English-language teacher as true equals.

- A six- to 10-week transition program for the children of newly arrived immigrant families.
- Partnerships with local colleges to help the family members of Holyoke students obtain a GED.
- More fine arts and media center funding, and more cultural field trips.
- Integrating the arts with “classroom” subjects.
- More internships focusing on vocational education and STEM (science, technology, engineering, math).
- Beautification and improvement of facilities, to send a message to students that they are valued.

State Rep. Aaron Vega, D-Holyoke, attended and participated in the public forum. He also discussed some of the details of the Student Opportunity Act, which he voted for in the state House of Representatives. He said he is confident that Holyoke schools will spend the money wisely.

“We know what works,” he said. “Now, hopefully, we’ll have the funding to keep doing it.”

Receiver-Superintendent Stephen Zrike placed one spending priority off-limits: using the money to fund, or partially fund, a new middle school. Student Opportunity Act money can’t be used for capital improvements, he said.

There’s another string attached to the funding, as well. Because Holyoke is one of the largest beneficiaries of Student Opportunity Act aid, it has to submit to the state a three-year plan identifying how the money will be used and how it will address the needs of underachieving students.

**Less of a deficit**

Soto warned that the schools won’t see a big budget bump from the current school year to 2020-21, because this year’s school budget was balanced with \$2.3 million in one-time supplemental funds. Much of this year’s Student Opportunity Act increase will be used to plug that gap.

The schools also face a 3 percent contracted raise in salaries, 3 percent projected rise in the cost of supplies and services, and 10 percent rise in health insurance costs.

Even with the additional Chapter 70 aid, that adds up to a projected deficit of \$930,070. That’s actually a good thing, Soto said.

He said at this stage in the budget process over the previous five years, Holyoke has been looking at deficits in the \$4 million to \$5 million range. The numbers improve as time goes on because the state aid figures in the House of Representatives and Senate budget proposals are always higher than what the governor proposes.

“This is the first year we’re not asking the department heads to make cuts,” he said. “We’re asking department heads for a level-service budget.”



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# SPORTS

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## Sports world crippled by coronavirus

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

It feels like to some, the sports world has been literally the “most” affected by the spread of the coronavirus.

Changes are happening every day related to the virus so much in fact that our weekly papers had a very tough time keeping up with them last week.

Now, the changes have started to slow down, because here in Western Massachusetts, there is not much more that can be done to bring the world to a crawl.

Even before many schools made the decision at the end of last week to close their doors for two weeks, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association closed down the conclusion of the

state tournament, shut fans out, and delayed the start of the spring sports season by at least two weeks.

But is delaying spring sports by two weeks really a new concept in Massachusetts? Absolutely not. Excessive March snow and cold temperatures slowing the melting process has delayed baseball and softball seasons for between one and two weeks for the last

few years.

Last year, the regular season was extended by a week to accommodate the poor weather for the springtime and give schools a chance to play all their regular season games.

The only disappointing part for many athletes, is that it appeared for a while we had an early spring coming with baseball and softball fields already drained, and the grass lacrosse

fields just about fit for play on the actual days teams are supposed to open in late March.

But like Major League Baseball, which delayed the start of its season, the start of the spring sports season cannot go on.

The MIAA has also mandated that coaches are not able to have anything to do with

See SPORTS, page 10

## Open Cup postponed, no makeup date yet announced

By Tim Peterson  
sports@turley.com

LUDLOW – The Western Mass. Pioneers have made a total of 11 appearances in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, which is the oldest ongoing national soccer competition in the United States, since 1998.

The Pioneers have been invited by U.S. Soccer to participate in the 107th edition of the elite tournament after not qualifying a year ago.

But the Pioneers will have to wait a while before it has the opportunity to take part in the event after the coronavirus pandemic has led to the event being postponed.

The Pioneers were originally scheduled to play GPS Portland on Tuesday, March 24.

“We’re very excited to be playing in another Open Cup match at Lusitano Stadium,” said Pioneers General Manager Greg Kolodziej. “It’s always a fun tourna-

ment and it’s a very good opportunity for the boys to play against some very good teams.”

In the past, the Open Cup has always started in May, but U.S. Soccer decided to begin this year’s tournament a couple of months earlier. With the ban on large events, it looks like the Cup may have to wait until May again.

“Because of our league rules, we won’t have access to any of the college players until the start of the regular season in May,” Kolodziej said. “We’ll have to piece together a roster for our first Open Cup game. We do have some older players from last year’s team that should be available to us. We’ll be signing players during the next couple of weeks.”

Federico Molinari will be returning as the Pioneers head coach.

The last time that the

See CUP, page 10



Daniel Fabian converges with an opponent for possession of the ball during the Pioneers last Open Cup appearance in 2018.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Louis Tambini changes directions with the ball and heads for the goal. The 2020 Open Cup will be delayed.

## Green Wave surfs past Tigers

By Tim Peterson  
sports@turley.com

WEST SPRINGFIELD – While South Hadley varsity hockey coach Larry Camus was disappointed in the final outcome of the Western Massachusetts Division 3A semifinal match, he was very pleased with the overall effort of his team.

The fifth-seeded Tigers battled back from an early two goal deficit against top-seeded Greenfield to tie the score. The match would remain tied until the Green Wave scored a pair of goals late in the third period and they celebrated a 4-2 victory before a large crowd at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield on Feb. 29.

“If we didn’t play with the type of intensity that we did in this game and had lost, I would’ve been very upset,” Camus said. “I’m not mad because my players played very hard. Even when we were trailing, we continued with our game plan and made a comeback. I thought we had a couple of very good chances to take the lead in the second and third periods. We’re like a big family and I’m very proud of these guys.”

The Tigers finished the 2019-20 campaign with a 12-8-2 overall record.

“We’re only losing one senior this year,” Camus added. “We should be adding a couple of very good players next year and we should have another good season.”

The only South Hadley senior is Mike Mazza, who finished his outstanding hockey career with 101 career points.

“Mike had three assists in our semifinals win against Chicopee the other night. It gave him 100 career points,” Camus said. “He’s been a phenomenal hockey player for us during the past four years and he’s a very special kid.”

Six of the Tigers hockey players attend Granby High School. They are sophomore Dylan Laramée, sopho-



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Kadyn Laramée, one of Granby's representatives for South Hadley hockey, skates up the ice during South Hadley's semifinal loss with Greenfield.



Matt Brunelle brings the puck into the offensive zone.

more Gabe Arabik, sophomore Kadyn Laramée, freshman Mike Arabik, freshman Nate Loughman, and freshman Josh Chateaufneuf.

“Kadyn Laramée and Nate Loughman played a lot of minutes this year,” Camus said. “Kadyn is a second year player

and he’s becoming a very good defenseman. I can’t wait to see how much he improves next year. Nate filled several positions because of injuries and sickness. He did a very good job for us.”

See HOCKEY, page 10



# Craven, founder of Ligers program, passes away

SOUTH HADLEY – On Monday March 9, Beth Szostkiewicz Craven, a Holyoke High School graduate, passed away unexpectedly, leaving behind a legacy that will never be forgotten.

“She was a bright light and a timeless advocate for children in our community. She was truly a one of a kind human being” said her friend Jane Gawron. Beth, in addition to being a longtime teacher at Michael E. Smith Middle School, was the “mother” of South Hadley soccer. She attended Providence College on a full soccer scholarship, receiving many accolades while being one of the best players to ever go through the program. Beth is tied for the all-time assist record at Providence. After graduating, Beth went on to coach at the high school and collegiate levels. She left the sport temporarily to start a family, returning in 2005, taking her three daughters and a few of their friends to start her own organization, The South Hadley Ligers. The Ligers competed in the Pioneer Valley Junior Soccer League, a travel league instead of the recreation league. This caused quite a stir in South Hadley but because she truly believed that a more competitive atmosphere was what was needed for the girls to excel, she sidestepped all obstacles put in her way. Her vision was not shared by many in the town but her perseverance through such resistance was what made the Ligers such a prominent program.

The program drew predominantly South Hadley students, but also brought some kids from nearby Granby, Holyoke, and, Chicopee.

By November of 2005 a Town Reminder headline read, “South Hadley Ligers finish perfect season of soccer”. As second and third graders, these girls dominated the league with Beth as their coach and she fostered the love of the game in each of them. She coached the girls up until they entered high school, as the graduating class of 2015. The original team grew into two full squads who com-



A tribute to Beth Craven following her sudden passing on March 9.

Submitted photos



Beth Craven speaks to one of her Ligers teams on the sidelines at a game. Craven was behind South Hadley’s successful youth soccer program.

peted and won many PVJSL championships. The program later spawned several younger teams of Ligers one team winning the Mass Youth Soccer state championship (Mass Tournament of Champions -MTOC) as seventh graders. Many news articles celebrated the success of Beth Craven’s Ligers over the years.

In the fall of 2019 the South Hadley High School girls soccer team won their first ever state title and coach Rich Marjanski credited the Ligers organiza-

tion and Beth Craven for that feat.

“Beth was a huge influence on why South Hadley soccer has been so successful. She had a vision of having girls play year-round together and really forming a bond way before they entered high school. I personally got into coaching because of the Ligers and SHHS’s success with three successive Western Mass championships and a state title is a reflection of Beth Craven”.

The vast majority of the Western

Mass. and state championship team were former Ligers.

On Saturday March 14, a number of Beth’s original Ligers team, including Sam and Lexi Gawron, Reilly Jodoin, Gigi Thibault, Kiera Sears, Kate and Mackenzie Sullivan, Meghan Godfrey, Courtney Fudger, Aryn Banas, Maeve Fitzgerald, Serena Sarage, Katie Evans and Beth’s three daughters Ally, Brianna and Stephanie gathered together to pay tribute to Beth and the huge impact that she had on all of her players. Players gathered together with their Ligers jerseys, jackets and pictures on the small field where it all began and each spoke about their favorite memories with Beth and the Ligers, and talked about how much Beth meant to each of them.

Sam Gawron, a close family friend of the Cravens said, “Beth’s impact was bigger than soccer. Her goal wasn’t just to make us the best soccer players we could be but to make us the best people we could be. Beth inspired each and every one of us who played for her and her legacy and memory is something that we will always carry with us. I just want to thank Beth for everything she has done, she is truly an amazing person and I don’t think any of us would be the people we are today without her. Beth will forever be missed. We love you coach, fly high!”

Beth’s impact was felt not only on the soccer field but in the classroom as well. Many of her former sixth grade science students attended the services and spoke of how grateful they were to have had the opportunity to be taught by such a passionate and inspiring teacher. In more recent years, Beth was a principal in the Athol-Royalston elementary school and an administrator in the Granby schools.

The community has lost a champion, an advocate, an inspiration, a friend. May her legacy, both on and off the pitch, continue as her former players and students take her light out into the world and make it a better place, just as she did every day.

## SPORTS, from page 9

their teams, much like the current rules that exist during sport offseasons. That means, with two weeks off from school and no coaching guidance, and then add in almost no facilities to use, athletes will be on their own to stay in shape and be ready to go if the MIAA allows spring practices to begin on March 30.

But that is not the only piece of the sports world that is affected. So many youth organizations and parks departments have also been forced to stop practices and seasons and tournaments

due to concern for the coronavirus.

During the past week, the 36th iteration of the Szlats Memorial Tournament was just halted after only two days of competition by the tournament committee because Chicopee Public Schools had to shut down their facilities.

Other great season-ending events were shut down as well, including banquets and all-star games. The 2020 High School Senior All-Star Game held at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame was cancelled. The game was originally set for Thursday, March 19, but Gov. Charlie Baker has barred

any gathering with more than 250 people. The games drawn a few thousand throughout the evening.

What could hurt the athletes most is the uncertainty. Spring sports are shut down for two weeks right now. But it is possible that could be extended, or worse, cancelled all together. Unfortunately, those options are on the table. The MIAA most recently released this statement on Saturday, March 14.

“The MIAA staff equally shares in these emotions and the existing heartbreak which has resulted due to canceled games, shortened seasons and disruption to exciting school activities, trips and

opportunities.

As we face these uncharted waters, be confident in knowing the MIAA staff is well and is readily available to you with guidance, support, resources and kindness. Our office is open and functioning. Scheduled meetings are moving forward in person or via tele- and/or video-conferencing, as organized by each MIAA sport liaison. Communication regarding the status of the spring season will be forthcoming following necessary discussions this coming week.”

Turley Sports will continue to monitor the situation and bring you news whenever we can.

## HOCKEY, from page 9

Greenfield (18-3) is slated to face third-seeded Wahconah Regional of Dalton in the Western Division 3A finals at Olympia on Thursday night. It’s their first trip to the finals since 2008.

Things didn’t start out very well for the Tigers in the semifinal match.

The Green Wave took a 1-0 lead at the 1:40 mark of the opening period on a goal by freshman Sam Knight.

Three minutes later, Greenfield scored a short-handed goal. The scor-

ing play began with junior Jacob Bryant stealing the puck away from a South Hadley player and he scored an unassisted breakaway goal.

The Green Wave scored their first two goals on just five shot attempts.

The momentum switched sides at that point.

A goal by South Hadley sophomore Joe Cigal in the middle of the first period cut the deficit in half. The duo of junior Ryan Tucker and Laramie were credited with the assists on the Tigers first goal of the game.

The Tigers scored the tying goal 38

seconds into the second period when sophomore Joe Meon slid a pass from the right circle to Mazza, who fired a shot into the net past Greenfield senior goalie Riley Drew (16 saves).

With 29 seconds left in the second period, a breakaway chance by Mazza was disallowed by the referees because the net dislodged.

At the start of the third period, the Green Wave fans thought their team had retaken the lead, but that goal was also disallowed by the referees because of a high stick.

South Hadley junior goalie Anthony

Cigal (25 saves) made a couple of key saves during the second and third periods keeping the score tied a little bit longer.

The Green Wave did retake the lead following a power-play goal by junior Aidan Roche with 1:11 remaining in regulation.

Greenfield would put the game out of reach with an empty net goal by Roche in the closing seconds.

It wasn’t the way that the South Hadley players, especially Mazza, wanted to see their outstanding season come to an end.

## CUP, from page 9

Pioneers won an Open Cup match was in 2014 when they defeated Mass. Premier Soccer, 4-1 at home in the first round. They then lost, 2-1, to the Rochester Rhinos (USL Pro) in a second-round road match. The Pioneers suffered first round losses at Lusitano Stadium in 2015, 2017, and 2018.

“We haven’t had very much luck

playing in the Open Cup during the past couple of years,” Kolodziey said. “We’re hoping to turn things around this year.”

The Pioneers did have a very memorable 2019 campaign. They finished the regular season with an 11-0-3 record and captured the Northeast Division title. The Western Mass. squad defeated North Carolina Fusion U-23 by the final score of 3-1 in the conference semifinals before losing to host Reading United AC

1-0 in the finals.

“We had a good group of players and it was a very good season for us last year,” Kolodziey said. “We’re hoping to qualify for the league playoffs again this year.”

GPS Portland Phoenix also made the league playoffs last year and they lost 2-1 to Reading United in the semifinals.

The Pioneers are currently scheduled to play at GPS Portland Phoenix to kick

off the 2019 regular season on May 9. They’ll be playing at AC Connecticut the following week before hosting GPS Portland in the home opener on May 22. The Pioneers are scheduled to play five more regular season home matches.

There has not been any further information on the regular season schedule and it is possible the season will open without any delays since it is not set to begin until May.





# Factors to consider before choosing a summer camp

Adults often look back fondly on their childhood experiences at summer camp. Camps can provide the opportunity to form lifelong friendships and discover rewarding hobbies that can enrich campers' lives for decades to come.

Choosing a summer camp is no small task, as the options at families' disposal range from overnight camps to weekday afternoon camps to camps that specialize in certain programs, such as music or dance. Cost also is likely to factor into families' decisions, as the American Camp Association notes that cost can vary greatly depending on which camp families choose. For example, the ACA notes

that the average daily fee at a resident camp is \$85, while the same fee at a day camp is \$43.

When looking for a summer camp for kids, families should make the decision together. Kids should be involved in the selection process, as they're more likely to have an enjoyable camp experience if they had a say in where they will be spending their summers. The following are some factors families should consider as they look for summer camps, courtesy of the ACA.

### Kids' interests

The ACA urges parents to consider the

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# Summer Camp

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child’s interests and personality before choosing a summer camp. Parents might want their children to attend the same summer camp they visited as youngsters, but each child is different. Just because mom and dad liked a particular camp does not mean their children will. The

ACA notes that summer camps should align with children’s interests and maturity level.

### Locale

Locale may only be a consideration for families considering overnight camps.

Kids will likely be familiar with the locations of local day camps, but overnight camps might be set in mountain ranges, near the ocean or environments less familiar to youngsters. Kids who love the ocean might benefit from ocean-front camps that focus on marine biology, boating or other activities involving the water. In the same vein, youngsters who like camping and hiking might be more likely to embrace camps located in mountain-



ous regions.

### Session length

Camps may last as little as one week or up to a couple of months. Session length should be considered by families looking

at both local day camps and overnight resident camps. Parents who want their children to enjoy a largely schedule-free summer might not want to commit their children to lengthy camp sessions, even if those sessions are close to home. If par-

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PRICING!**  
As low as \$29/day.

School Age Summer Program for children who have completed K-6th grade.

**Full Day Camp Includes:**  
Swimming, Field Trips, Sports, Nature Exploration, Arts & Crafts, Weekly Themes.

**Flexible Scheduling Available**

For more information, visit  
[www.belchertowndayschool.org](http://www.belchertowndayschool.org)  
(413) 323-8108 and/or email [Heidi@belchertowndayschool.org](mailto:Heidi@belchertowndayschool.org)

**SUMMER CAMP**

**LUDLOW COMMUNITY CENTER  
RANDALL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

91 Claudia's Way Ludlow, MA 01056  
413-583-2072

**Camp Hours: 6:30 am - 5:30PM**

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> - August 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Weekly Field Trips**

**For more information, visit:**  
[www.ludlowbgc.org](http://www.ludlowbgc.org)

**See how curious children  
become eager students.**

**The Gorse Children's Center  
is Now Enrolling!**

- Infant • Toddler • Preschool
- Pre-Kindergarten
- Before & After-School Program (K-3rd)

Summer Explorations:  
Fabulous Field Trips,  
Outrageous Outdoor Activities,  
Science Rocks, Art Smart,  
Water Play, Fun & Games!

- Full & part-day programs
- Flexible scheduling
- Academic & full year calendars

**The Gorse Children's Center  
at Mount Holyoke College**  
27 Morgan Street, South Hadley, MA  
413-538-3351  
[gorse@brighthorizons.com](mailto:gorse@brighthorizons.com)  
[www.brighthorizons.com/gorse](http://www.brighthorizons.com/gorse)

**Bright Horizons.**

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Visit our new Belchertown office just down the road from the previous location.

**Call to book your camp  
physicals today!**

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Adolescent Medicine**

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**35 Turkey Hill Road, Suite 5, Belchertown**  
**(413) 599-1201 • Fax: (413) 323-1145**  
**[www.pamcares.com](http://www.pamcares.com)**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION**

Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am - 2:00pm

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> & Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm - 7:30pm

\$160 per week/per child - Ludlow Resident  
\$170 per week/per child - Non-resident

**No Appointment Necessary/No Additional Discounts**

**Must pay in Full or Use Auto Debit**

**General Registration**

Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00-2:00PM  
Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:30PM  
Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:30PM

\$180 per week/per child: Ludlow Resident  
\$190 per week/per child: Non-Resident

**\$50 registration fee will be waived with pay in full  
or auto debit option.**

Space is Limited  
Must bring a voided check or bank letter for auto debit  
\*Current immunizations due at the time of registration\*  
Questions? Contact: [ssantos@ludlowbgc.org](mailto:ssantos@ludlowbgc.org) or [kmartins@ludlowbgc.org](mailto:kmartins@ludlowbgc.org)



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– Restored with new woven seats –  
Many styles and weaves available. Call  
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**DISH TV - \$59.99** For 190 Channels  
+ \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free  
installation, Smart HD DVR Included,  
Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions  
apply. Call **1-877-925-7371**

**RETIRED PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER** everything goes from  
camera bags, wedding albums, posing  
bench and table, a framer, etc. Too  
much to mention. Call **413-5388290**

## FARM EQUIPMENT

**51' FORD 8N TRACTOR** 3 pt.  
hitch, original owner. Front guard,  
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Excellent condition \$6,000.**413-230-8136** Chesterfield

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**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$160.00  
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All hardwood.  
Tree length available  
\*Also have seasoned softwood for  
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**SEASONED FIREWOOD** 1 and 2  
yr. old. Prompt response and delivery.  
Call now S & K **413-267-3100** or  
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Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split,  
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Contact our trusted, local experts to-  
day! Our service is FREE/no obliga-  
tion. CALL **1-855-799-4127**

**DEALING WITH WATER DAMAGE**  
requires immediate action. Local  
professionals that respond immedi-  
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**1-800-506-3367**

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pain? If you have insurance, you may  
qualify for the perfect brace at little to  
no cost. Get yours today! Call **1-800-217-0504**

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the Research & Development pros  
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guide. Submit your idea for a free con-  
sultation.

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a button sends help FAST! Medical,  
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SYSTEM. Whether you're Home or  
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eries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved!  
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vice or business to 1.7 million house-  
holds throughout New England. Reach  
4 million potential readers quickly and  
inexpensively with great results. Use  
the Buy New England Classified Ad  
Network by calling **(413)283-8393**,  
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You are reading one of our ads now!!  
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**STAY IN YOUR HOME** longer with  
an American Standard Walk-In Bath-  
tub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including  
a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty  
on the tub and installation! Call us at  
**1-866-945-3783**.

**STOP STRUGGLING ON THE** STAIRS. Give your life a lift with an  
ACORN STAIRLIFT! Call now for \$250.  
OFF your stairlift purchase and FREE  
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**OLD CARPENTER TOOLS** want-  
ed. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Also  
hunting, fishing gear. Old advertis-  
ing, cast iron cookware. Call Ken  
**(413)433-2195**.

## SERVICES



**\*\*\*\*\*A CALL WE HAUL**  
**WE TAKE IT ALL**  
**WE LOAD IT ALL**  
Lowest Rates,  
accumulations, junk, estates,  
attics, garages, appliances,  
basements, demo services  
10% disc. with this ad.  
All Major CC's  
CALL NOW **(413)531-1936**  
acallwehaul@gmail.com

## SERVICES

**SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER**  
**TUNE UP & REPAIR**  
**A&M TUNE-UPS**  
*Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers*  
*and Small Engine Repair.*  
Work done at your home.  
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

**A DUMP TRUCK** clearing out attics,  
cellars, garages, barns, whole house  
clean-outs, scrap metal. Free esti-  
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**A HOME IMPROVEMENT SPE-**  
**CIALIST 413-563-2229** Lic  
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sheds, garage, barns. Commercial,  
Residential, porches, doors, windows.  
Tim

**AAA DUMPSTER RENTALS,** 10-  
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estimates. **413-277-5660**

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Established 1976. New re-roofs and  
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Licensed/ insured. Call **(413)967-6679**

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH**  
**REMOVAL** attics, cellars, garag-  
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Call Walt at **(413)289-6670** for esti-  
mate.

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ter repair. Drywall hanging. Taping &  
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Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls.  
**(413)563-0487**

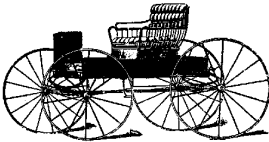


## SERVICES

**JKL LIQUID ASPHALT** Custom  
driveways. Oil & stone specialists. Call  
today for a free quote. **413-289-6251**  
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next ad, website, or book project?  
Freelance illustrator Sadie Parrotta is  
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**PAINT AND PAPER** Over 25 years  
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**CHASE** (any condition) horse drawn  
vehicles such as sleighs, carriages,  
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available. Reasonable prices. Quality  
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**DEMERS & SONS**  
**BELCHERTOWN, MA**

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**COLEMAN APPLIANCE SER-**  
**VICE** Since 1981. Servicing all makes  
and models of washers, dryers, re-  
frigerators, stoves, dishwashers. Also  
dryer vent cleaning. **(413)536-0034**

## CHILD SERVICES

**\*NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone ad-  
vertising caring of children must list a li-  
cense number to do so if they offer this  
service in their own home.

## SERVICES

## ELECTRICIAN

**BILL CAMERLIN- ADDITIONS,**  
service changes, small jobs for home-  
owners, fire alarms. Fast, dependable,  
reasonable rates. Insured, free esti-  
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service. **(413)427-5862**

**DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY** service, installs deicing  
cables. Free estimates. Fully insured.  
Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B  
Call **(413)244-7096**.

**SERVICE CALLS, REPAIRS,** code  
violations, smoke alarms, home in-  
spection repairs, Hot Tubs, swimming  
pools, more. Timothy McGovern Lic  
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**MENARD GARAGE DOORS** Spec-  
ializing in the best quality and selec-  
tion of insulated Haas garage doors.  
Sales, Installation, service and repairs  
of residential and commercial garage  
doors and openers. Fully insured. Free  
estimates. Call **(413)289-6550**,  
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## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**ACO**  
**MASONRY, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING**

All types of masonry work.  
Chimney repair, tile work, stucco,  
stone, brick, block, concrete,  
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Trust the professionals and look the  
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Call for all your needs. Windows, sid-  
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100% guaranteed. Licensed and in-  
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Kitchen, bath, foyers. Referenc-  
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WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUT-  
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**MODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceram-  
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textured ceilings, siding, decks. Insur-  
ance work. Fully insured. Free esti-  
mates. **(413)246-2783** Ron.

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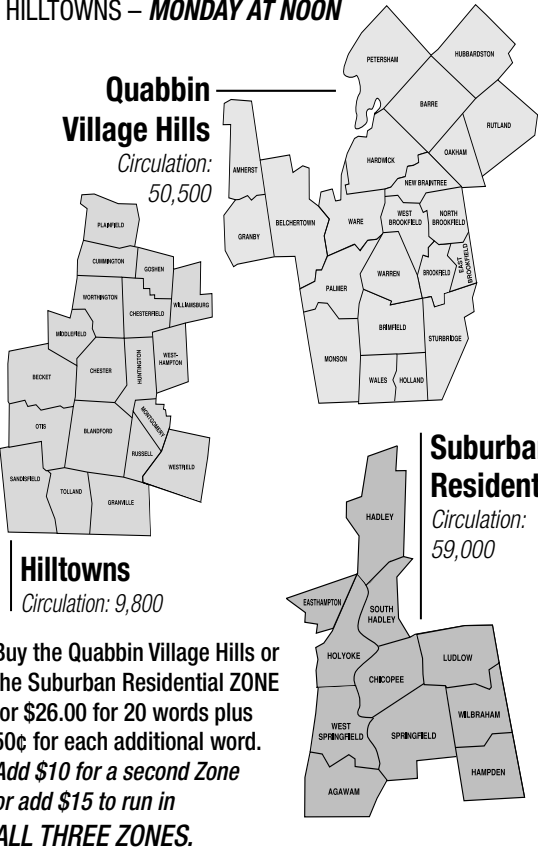
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or call toll free: 800-824-6548

DEADLINES:

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON**  
HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or  
the Suburban Residential ZONE  
for \$26.00 for 20 words plus  
50¢ for each additional word.  
Add \$10 for a second Zone  
or add \$15 to run in  
ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
☐ Quabbin  
☐ Suburban  
☐ Hilltowns

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## SERVICES

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**WATER DAMAGE**  
**CALL JAY (413)436-5782-**  
**FOR REPAIRS**  
**COMPLETE DRYWALL**  
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**PAINTING, CEILINGS**  
**(SMOOTH OR TEXTURED).**  
**40+ YEARS EXPERIENCE.**  
**FULLY INSURED.**

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**A+ ROZELL'S**  
**LANDSCAPING &**  
**BOBCAT SERVICE**  
Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arboretum Installed  
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand  
Storm Clean-up  
Maintenance  
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal/  
Clean-outs  
Insured  
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**\*\*\*AAA DEVENO LANDSCAP-**  
**ING\*\*\*** Spring Clean-ups, Shrub  
trimming, weekly maintenance, bobcat  
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brick walks and patios. Free estimates.  
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Weekly, bi-weekly mowing, Spring,  
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nance. Call Dan **(413)682-4943**

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Dethatching  
Mulch/ Stone  
Stump grinding  
Senior Citizen/ Veteran's Discount  
Certified/ Insured  
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## SERVICES

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40 years experience. Divorce, Wills,  
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imony, Child Support, Mediation. ALL  
COUNTIES **413-786-2211** he-  
bert.pmh@gmail.com

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All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatch-  
way doors, basement windows, chim-  
neys rebuilt & repaired, foundations  
repaired, basement waterproofing sys-  
tems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free  
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**1611, (413)374-5377**

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**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING**  
**& HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs &  
Replacement of fixtures, water heater  
installations, steam/HW boiler replace-  
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Greg **(413)592-1505**

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"New Projects"  
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For Your Connection  
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**EXPERIENCED ROOFER** quality  
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Complete roofing systems and repairs.  
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**DL & G TREE SERVICE-** Every-  
thing from tree pruning, tree removal,  
stump grinding, storm damage, lot  
clearing and brush chipping. Honest  
and Dependable. Fully insured. Now  
offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran  
discount. Call today for free estimate  
**(413)478-4212**

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**JUNK**  
**AND REPAIRABLE**  
**CARS**  
**FREE TOWING**  
**FAST SERVICE**  
**CASH PAID AS IS**  
**CALL OR TEXT**  
**413-219-6839**

**CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!!** All  
Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Con-  
dition, Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid!  
Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call  
Now: **1-888-513-1505.**

## AUTO PARTS

**BUYING JUNK OR** wrecked cars  
and light trucks. Call Mark's Auto Parts,  
in East Granby, CT. **860-653-2551**

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**GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE**  
**FOR ADOPTION**  
**SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED,**  
**SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED,**  
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**MAKE A FAST FRIEND!**

**GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC.**  
**CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129**  
**OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088**  
**OR GO TO**  
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**ORG**

## PETS

### HORSES

**HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS**  
offered year round at our state of the  
art facility. beginner to advanced. Ages  
4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and  
Leasing also available. Convenient lo-  
cation at Orion Farm in South Hadley  
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teams. Year round riding programs. Gift  
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## HELP WANTED

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**LIFE CARE CENTER OF**  
**WILBRAHAM**  
Full-time position available. Qualified  
candidate must have ICD-9 coding  
experience, be detail-oriented and  
possess strong organizational and  
time management skills. We offer great  
pay and benefits in a team-oriented  
environment.  
Lisa Persson  
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142912

**MECHANIC WANTED. EXPERI-**  
**ENCED** in truck & heavy equipment.  
Must have own tools. APMI, Monson,  
MA **413-267-4088**

**POSITION AVAILABLE** Market  
Manager for the Belchertown Farmers  
Market. Part time May through Octo-  
ber. Contact belchertownfarmersmar-  
ket@gmail.com for more information.

**THE GRANBY HOUSING AU-**  
**THORITY** is seeking a part-time  
administrative clerk 15 hours weekly.  
Responsibilities include general clerical  
assistance including data-entry, filing,  
photocopying. Candidate must be or-  
ganized, flexible, and possess the ability  
to multitask, work independently, and  
follow oral and written instructions. Min-  
imum of one year of clerical experience  
is required. Resume should be mailed  
to Executive Director, Granby Housing  
Authority, 50 Phins Hill Manor, Granby,  
MA 01033 no later than March 20, 2020.

## HELP WANTED

**THE TOWN OF BARRE** (popu-  
lation: 5365; budget: \$12million) is  
seeking qualified applicants for Town  
Administrator to serve as chief admin-  
istrative officer of the town.

The successful candidate will have  
excellent leadership qualities, excep-  
tional oral and written communication  
skills including successful grant-writ-  
ing record, experience with municipal  
finances/budgets, procurement, Mass.  
General Laws, human resources/  
personnel management, and plan-  
ning. The candidate should be for-  
ward-thinking and innovative, with a  
strong commitment and motivation to  
work collaboratively with town depart-  
ment heads, employees, boards, com-  
mittees, and citizens.

The Town Administrator plays a cru-  
cial role in the town's overall planning,  
management, organization, stability,  
and growth. The position works under  
the three-member Board of Selectmen.  
View the job description at www.town-  
ofbarre.com.

Job requirements include: Bachelor's  
degree in public administration, busi-  
ness administration, or a related field,  
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Kimberly Irizarry hands a bag lunch to student Isaiah Maloon outside Lawrence School on Wednesday, with student Jeremiah Cousineau.

Handing out meals at Lawrence School on Wednesday were, from left, McMahon School Assistant Principal Kate Ritchie, and Sodexo Food Services employees Alexandra Ortiz, Jonathan Cavette and Kimberly Irizarry.



Photos by Shelby Macri

## LUNCHES, from page 1

mer months. The lunches are prepared in the Holyoke High and Kelly School buildings, and bused to the other sites.

“The food changes every week, so we have different menus available, and they’re available to the public online,” Taylor said. “The menus are subject to change and will still have the same order of breakfast and lunch components.”

She also mentioned that the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are all made with sunbutter, a sunflower seed alternative, in order to accommodate students with nut allergies. The lunch on Wednesday included a ham and cheese sandwich with packaged condiments, a packaged muffin, assorted fruits and vegetables, juice, and a choice of chocolate or regular milk.

Zrike said he expects the free program to gain in popularity.

“I think the first couple of days were seen as vacation, but

as the time goes on and there are more restrictions, we’ll see more and more people will need this resource,” Zrike said. “We’re prepared to do more, especially in week 2 and 3 of the break.”

He said future plans may include a mobile service. The schools are already delivering meals to shelters and to some families who are unable to make it to the sites. Though there are limits to their transportation resources, Zrike said school officials understand families have different needs and they want to be able to help as many students and families as they can. Zrike said parents and students have been keeping in contact with their teachers and principals in the week since schools closed, and information about their needs gets relayed to the



The breakfast and lunch components of Wednesday's prepared meal from Sodexo Food Services.

administrative team during daily conference calls.

At the Lawrence School site on Wednesday, there were disposable gloves, hand sanitizer and sanitary wipes available, and everyone was conscious of what they touched. Amid a viral outbreak that spreads by human contact, schools are making an effort to stay sanitary and encourage students and families to practice good hygiene, as well.

Families that cannot make it to one of the six sites within the 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. time-frame should contact Jose Bou at [jbou@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:jbou@hps.holyoke.ma.us) or 413-

534-2000, ext. 1104, to discuss an accommodation.

Other options also exist for families needing help putting food on the table. Kate’s Kitchen is providing to-go meals in the parking lot of 56 Cabot St., Holyoke, from noon to 2 p.m. on weekdays. Margaret’s Pantry, at the same address, is available by appointment at 413-536-9109, ext. 119. Additionally, counselors will take calls at Project Bread’s Food Source Hotline at 800-645-8333 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

### Keep in touch

Zrike encouraged students and families to stay in touch with their teachers and principals not only to ensure that their nutrition needs are being met, but also to keep active educationally during the school closure.

He said students and teachers are communicating virtual-

ly to keep classes supplied with enrichment work.

“We have teachers who are videotaping exercise classes, we have teachers who are doing read-alouds, and various other educational services,” Zrike said. “The strongest connection is between the individual teacher and family, so we encourage everyone to stay in touch with their educators.”

There is also a list of online resources at [hps.holyoke.ma.us](http://hps.holyoke.ma.us) that the district’s curriculum instruction team assembled to keep young minds working.

Though Zrike initially announced that schools would close for two weeks, Gov. Charlie Baker later issued an order closing all districts across the state, and gave April 6 as the soonest possible date schools could reopen. That date may be pushed back if state officials believe the coronavirus remains a threat to public health.



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